

REPORT (PART II)  
ON  
NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL  
FOR THE  
Week ending Saturday, 14th June 1902.

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## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

782. The following remarks on the conclusion of peace are taken from a leader in the *Indian Mirror*. After congratulating His Majesty the King the writer proceeds:—

INDIAN MIRROR,  
3rd June 1902.

We congratulate the Boers likewise on their wisdom in abandoning a struggle, which was hopeless for them from its very inception. It would not have been so very hopeless, had other nations carried out their unpublished contracts, and fulfilled their unwritten pledges. In any case, we hope and trust that this peace will be lasting. It has cost the Boers their independence as a distinct governing people in South Africa. But the peace brings them no dishonour. It is emphatically peace with honour for them. Such a struggle, with such an end, the world has not witnessed—at all events there exists no historical record of it—for many thousand years. Peace has come—let it be peace in spirit as in name. Let British and Boer be brothers in reality!

783. The same journal regards the terms of peace as being certainly very generous to a brave and conquered foe, and this treatment of the Boers ought to make an impression very favourable to England throughout hostile Europe.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
4th June 1902.

784. The *Bengalee* rejoices at the cessation of hostilities and the conclusion of peace, remarking that England will now be free to devote her attention to the Far Eastern question abroad and to the Irish question at home.

BENGALÉE,  
4th June 1902.

785. In a subsequent issue the same journal ventures to think that not even the most rabid detractors of the English nation will accuse them of having used their giant's strength as a giant in bringing the peace negotiation to a successful termination.

BENGALÉE,  
5th June 1902.

786. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* attributes the happy termination of the war to the determination of the King to put an end to it before the Coronation. If peace satisfied the British people, it could have been obtained, says the writer, two years ago. Universal thanksgiving ought to be offered, and the Boer war should teach mankind that fighting is the occupation which, if natural to dogs and tigers, is not natural to man.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
5th June 1902.

787. The *Hindoo Patriot* comments as follows on the peace conditions:—  
No more generous and fair terms could be expected to be given by a conqueror to the conquered. It shows the liberal and generous instinct that characterizes the great English nation.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
6th June 1902.

788. The *Bengalee* makes the following further comments on the war, and the peace conditions:—  
Nothing becomes a victor so well as magnanimity in the hour of triumph, and that magnanimity has been displayed by England in the moderation of the terms of peace which have finally been accepted and which have terminated a long, tedious and inglorious war. We call the war inglorious, not because it was wanting in the great qualities of manhood and courage which make war generous, but because it had for its object the extinction of the independence of a brave people, who passionately loved their country and whose patriotism was only equalled by their heroism and by the immense sacrifices which they made for their country. Whatever might have been the merits of the war—and history will condemn it as an unjust war—all must rejoice that its sanguinary course is now at an end, and that peace has at last been concluded.

BENGALÉE,  
7th June 1902.

789. The *Indian Mirror* quotes the *Pioneer* to explain that the visit of Sirdar Ayub Khan to Simla has no political significance, but remarks that Amir Habibula Khan will certainly not relish the news of the visit. His subjects will most probably have interpretations of their own. Altogether the incident is not likely to promote good feeling or good understanding between the Indian and Afghan Governments.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
6th June 1902.

The visit of Sirdar Ayub Khan to the Viceroy.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
7th June 1902.

790. The following is taken from the *Indian Mirror* :—

Viscount Kitchener.

Viscount Kitchener—for the King has rewarded him with a step in the Peerage—has deserved well of his country. He has certainly deserved far better than Earl Roberts, who secured a couple of showy victories only to let the horrors of the war just really commence. Calumny has pursued Lord Kitchener, just as adulation has dogged the heels of Lord Roberts. If Lord Kitchener had his way, the war would have ended at least six months earlier. But Mr. Chamberlain and his henchman, Lord Milner, were far less humane than this rough soldier with a reputation for cruelty. The peace is largely due to the efforts of Lord Kitchener. We have called him rough names before, especially in the matter of his reported dealings with the dervishes in the Soudan. But in South Africa, he has earned the undeniable reputation of being not only a stern disciplinarian as well as a capable General, but also a wise statesman, who ever tried to be just in his dealings with a brave enemy.

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

### (a)—Police.

BEHAR NEWS,  
31st May 1902.

791. The *Behar News* comments as follows on the Rajshahi case :—

The Rajshahi case.

The Rajshahi case has excited widest sensation all over the country. It has been the talk of the people and of the press for the last few days. It has proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the police administration at Rajshahi is rotten to the core, that in fact the police wield supreme power there and are practically the monarch of all they survey. We need not repeat what shameful disclosures were made by the famous Chapra judgment of Mr. Pennel. His Noakhali judgment revealed what things were possible within the sacred precincts of officialdom. And the Rajshahi matter discloses that there is one more district which is in the same condition as Chapra and Noakhali.

### (b)—Working of the Courts.

BENGALUR,  
2nd June 1902.

792. The *Bengalee* asks if it is too late to remedy the mistake by which

Mr. Dobbin.

Mr. Dobbin has been appointed to the Registrarship of the Calcutta Small Cause Court and Coronership of Calcutta? According to the fitness of things, a medical man should be appointed Coroner, and Mr. Dobbin should be left to discharge the duties of Registrar which are of an absorbing character.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
3rd June 1902.

793. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* regards the judgment of the High Court on the reference made by Mr. Lee, the Sessions Judge of Rajshahi, in the *Muharram* cases, as a "sound shoe-beating" for Mr. Lee.

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
5th June 1902.

794. Now that the task of recording the evidence of witnesses will, says the *Hindoo Patriot*, devolve upon sarishtadars, it is necessary that this class of officers should be recruited from the best available men, sufficiently able and honest to resist temptation. Better pay and prospects should be held out as an attraction, so as to place them above want.

The double record system in the United Provinces.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
7th June 1902.

795. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* asks for the appointment of an Indian Judge on the Criminal Bench of the High Court.

An Indian Judge on the Criminal Bench of the High Court.

For the proper dispensation of criminal justice, a native of India, who is naturally familiar with the instincts, customs, manners, and the language of the country, is, it says, an absolute necessity.

### (d)—Education.

EAST,  
31st May 1902.

796. The *East* expresses the following views with regard to the education of native females :—

Female education.

In our humble opinion if our females are to be educated in order that they may wisely and rightly occupy the position they are meant by nature to occupy in human society, and do their

duties as they ought to do, the system of their education as well as those who are to impart it to them according to the system, should be suitable to the female nature itself. When the system of male education and the teaching staff have to be altogether changed for the good of our young men, should we not be strictly on our guard against such things in regard to the education of our young women before it is too late?

797. Reverting to this subject, the *Indian Mirror* does not see why, if

INDIAN MIRROR,  
1st June 1902.

"Higher education threatened." Government withdrew from higher education of Indians, Indian Princes and Noblemen, if they set to work with honesty, earnestness and unselfishness, could not devise means for taking up and carrying on the work. It points to the Central Hindu College at Benares, to the educational institutions created and fostered by the Arya Samajists of the Punjab. Few Princes and Nobles have helped these Arya Samajists either in money or kind. It was the contribution of the poor men's pies and the doles of poor bunnia shopkeepers, a perfect and beautiful example of self-help and self-denial. If these and costly *pinjrapoles* could be the result of pice contributions, why, asks the journal, should not the same means be utilised for the work of higher education?

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

798. The *Hindoo Patriot* draws attention of the authorities to the great inconvenience and danger to pedestrians and particularly to wheeled traffic by the work which is

HINDOO PATRIOT,  
6th June 1902.

A dangerous locality. in progress of constructing an additional bridge at Dum-Dum junction station.

799. The *Bengalee* complains that serious overcrowding takes place in through trains, up and down, on the East Indian Railway line, and a good number of passengers, mostly third class, who have purchased tickets,

BENGALUR,  
7th June 1902.

Overcrowding in railway compartments.

are left behind.

(h)—*General.*

800. The *Behar Times* writes:—For sometime past it has been abundantly clear that the European regime in Dumraon has been a failure and extraordinary discoveries of

BEHAR TIMES,  
30th May 1902.

Dumraon affairs.

the culmination of mismanagement were made several weeks ago, since which the whole estate has been in a ferment and the wildest rumours have been afloat. In the midst of all this one thing is certain, namely, that all the European employes of the Raj, including Mr. Charles Fox, the Manager, have resigned. The public may put what interpretation they like upon the fact of this wholesale resignation, but those who know believe that in resigning the European employes of the Raj have followed the wisest possible course for themselves, otherwise dismissal was inevitable. We are exceedingly pleased to find that at such a critical juncture of affairs, the Maharani has shown not only the greatest firmness, but a deal of forbearance on the one hand and foresight on the other which mark her as a lady of extraordinary capacity for management. Her firmness was never so well exhibited as when she steadily set her face against the regime which has just been a thing of the past as soon as she discovered that its *laches* were of a character that made its continuation impossible in the interest of the Raj; but the degree of forbearance she exercised in allowing her European employes to resign can be best appreciated by those who know the nature of the discoveries made in connection with their management of the Raj affairs in recent years; while her foresight in finding a successor to Mr. Charles Fox in the person of Babu Siva Saran Lall, B.A., B.L. of the Arrah Bar, has been simply admirable. A better choice was scarcely possible. Babu Siva Saran Lall is precisely the kind of man whose presence at the helm of affairs in Dumraon at the present critical moment is required to conserve and to advance the interests of the Raj, to prevent factions from forming and to make intrigue, which forms a recurring factor in our native Courts, impossible. He is not only a sound and successful lawyer in the enjoyment of one of the best practice in the Arrah Bar, but he is a man of proved executive capacity and as non-official Chairman

of the Arrah Municipality for well-nigh a whole decade, his services were recognised as being invaluable. He is thoroughly conscientious and straightforward; his principles of conduct both in private and public life are the result of an almost ascetical and life-long self-discipline; and last but not the least of his qualifications is that he is a non-party and non-political man. With him at the head of the administration in Dumraon, the Maharani and every body in Bihar must feel confident that the management of the Raj will not only be efficiently conducted, but conducted with an eye to its integrity and advancement, present and prospective. We understand that Babu Siva Saran Lall has already taken charge and the Maharani has notified to the Government the fact of his appointment which will, we have every reason to believe, meet with the approval of Sir John Woodburn. We shall revert to the subject later on.

BEHAR NEWS,  
31st May 1902.

801. The *Behar News* advocates the nomination of Mr. S. N. Singh as the representative for Bihar at the forthcoming Coronation. It says:—There is still sometime left to remedy the mistake. Let the Beharies whose interest it is consider the matter in earnest. Let the Government pause and think what a cruel mistake has been committed by leaving Behar unrepresented in the great ceremony. If the Maharaja of Gidhour could not accept the invitation for social considerations, the Government could rectify its mistake in another way.

POWER AND GUARDIAN,  
1st June 1902.

802. *Power and Guardian* writes that since the advent of Mr. Ross, Superintendent of Government Printing, India, to of the Burma Government Press, some 200 compositors have gone on strike owing to their wages being reduced from Rs. 40 to Rs. 22, which on account of the dearness of living in Rangoon is not sufficient for the men to support themselves upon.

The journal mentions that two years ago it brought to notice Mr. Ross' conduct in his curious dealings with the poor compositors and recommends Sir Frederic Fryer's Government to enquire into the grievances of the press employes and remedy them at an early opportunity.

BENGALIEE,  
2nd June 1902.

803. The *Bengalee* hears that Mr. Roberts, District Engineer of Purnea, has applied to the Viceroy for an extension of service, which expires on the 1st July next. It remarks that it would be a huge jobbery if Mr. Roberts succeeds in his application. The Engineer's Department of the Purnea Board, it urges, requires new blood and Mr. Roberts should not be retained.

INDIAN NATION,  
2nd June 1902.

804. While not agreeing with the *Indian Mirror* that there are no representatives of the educated Indian community among the Coronation guests, the *Indian Nation* finds that there are some educated men among them, but they are aristocrats first and educated men next, and therefore they are not representatives of the educated community. It next characterises the nomination of Maharaj Kumar Prodyot Kumar Tagore as extraordinary and concludes with the following observations on the unsuitability of Mr. Justice Banerji as an ideal representative:—His qualifications are many and high, but he has one disqualification in our eyes, and that is probably his greatest qualification in the eyes of the authorities, namely, the fact of his being an official. If he had been invited as a Vakil, we should have had nothing to say. If you want a Bengalee Vice-Chancellor of the University, you have Mr. Justice Banerjea. If you want a Bengalee member of the Indian Universities Commission, you have Mr. Justice Banerjea. If you want a Bengalee of very high education to be a Coronation guest, you have Mr. Justice Banerjea. This we take to be not a fair way of meeting the claims of the educated community. That community prides itself on its independence. It has many representatives in independent walks of life. To ignore them all and mark for recognition only the official members of that community is an uncertain proceeding. Is the official recognised as an official or as one of the people? Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjea as a Vakil, as a Municipal Commissioner, as a Congressman, had nothing like the honours which have come to him as a Judge.

805. The *Indian Mirror* writes that Lord Curzon has, in the matter of the refusal of the Government to receive congratulatory addresses from municipalities, yielded his judgment in favour of that ancient fogey, the Bureaucracy. Lord Curzon, it adds, began by bullying the Bureaucracy. The Bureaucracy has got him now, and evidently does with him as it pleases. It was "Ali Baba" who once facetiously said that the Viceroy was India, and India was the Viceroy. "Ali Baba" might have been right in his day. But these many years past India has been the Bureaucracy, and the Bureaucracy has been India.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
4th June 1902.

806. The result of the Government's reply to the Bogra Municipality has been, says the *Bengalee*, to deter other bodies from asking to be permitted to present addresses to His Majesty the King on the occasion of his Coronation. It hopes, however, that every opportunity will be afforded public bodies to present addresses on the occasion of the Darbar to be held in January next and that no restriction of any kind will be imposed on their freedom of action.

BENGALÉE,  
7th June 1902.

807. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* complains that in addition to the disadvantages the employés of the Port Commissioners' Dock labour in respect of overtime allowances, the matter of their promotion also calls for remark. Efficiency is not in their case, the test of preferment, and senior and deserving men's claims are set aside to provide for relatives and friends.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
5th June 1902.

808. The *Bengalee* points out that with the exception of Mr. A. C. Mitra, who is a Munsif, there is not a single Hindu Barrister who holds any appointment under the Government of Bengal.

BENGALÉE,  
6th June 1902.

While the population of Hindus in Bengal is in the majority, this exclusion is remarkable, especially when it sometimes happens, as in the case of Mr. Dobbin, one Barrister holds two appointments, one of which could have been given to a Hindu Barrister.

### III.—LEGISLATION.

809. The reappointment of Maulvi Sayyid Muhammad, Deputy Magistrate of Alipore, to the Bengal Council does not give satisfaction to the *Moslem Chronicle* which does not consider the gentleman a competent representative of the Moslem people. It says:—

MOSLEM CHRONICLE,  
31st May 1902.

"It can but lead to only one inference, that the Council is not the place for education, culture or acknowledged merit, but for something else which it is not in the province of man to find out. \* \* \* If men can win their seats to the Council through mere puffery, it not only discourages quiet and sterling worth and holds out no reasonable inducement to liberal and modern education, but sets a premium on toadyism which every Englishman abhors and which is extremely demoralizing."

### IV.—NATIVE STATES.

810. Continuing its remarks on this question, the *Bengalee* says:—  
If there was an Advisory Board of Native Princes, who were consulted in all matters affecting the Native States in which the power of interference or control was sought to be exercised by the Government, we are convinced that there would be less occasion for such interference. The offending States would not like to have their shortcomings laid before Princes of similar status and position. The existence of such a Board of Princes, helping and advising the Government in matters touching the Native States would exercise a salutary influence upon all the Native Princes. To be a member of this Board would be felt to be a great honour; and the Princes would be filled with a generous emulation to be deserving of so great a trust. Those who would not be members of the Board would take care to give as little occasion as possible to have their affairs laid before the Board. Altogether, a healthy stimulus would be imparted all round; a noble career would

BENGALÉE,  
4th June 1902.

BENGALIEE,  
7th June 1902.

be provided for the Native Princes and their self-respect would be enhanced by the sense of their new responsibilities.

811. The *Bengalee* hopes that the Gaekwar of Baroda will raise the minimum income taxable in his State, as the taxing of incomes of Rs. 100 a year presses heavily upon the poor, while the provision that any annual income exceeding Rs. 500 is liable to the maximum tax of Rs. 4, means a higher rate for the poor and a lower rate for the rich.

#### VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

BEHAR TIMES,  
30th May 1902.

812. The *Behar Times* reports that the India General Steam Navigation Company, whose steamers ply between Goa-lundo on one side and Dighaghat on the other, and who have the monopoly for the conveyance of coolies from the districts of Behar to the tea districts of Assam, have dismissed the native doctors in medical charge of their steamers and given their places to Eurasian clerks.

It protests against such an arrangement, in view of the outbreak of infectious diseases among the coolies.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
7th June 1902.

813. Writing of the condition of the Indian press, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* makes the following remarks:—

Newspapers in India. One reason why Indian papers do not flourish is no doubt the hostile attitude of the Government. The law of libel, which obtains here, is atrociously bad, one-sided and cruel. Fancy, a young Magistrate, who ought to be flying kites instead of administering justice, is made to decide the nice points which a defamation case involves. He is alien to the country; the language is foreign to him and he, unaided, has to decide whether an Indian newspaper, which can never be an object of sympathy with him, has committed a libel or not. We were talking of the incomes of native newspapers. A petty libel case is enough to ruin an ordinary newspaper. Fancy, in the Cawnpur case, though we committed no offence whatever, nor anything like it, we had to spend several thousand rupees to extricate ourselves. Even the loss of this large amount of money sinks into insignificance, when we remember the insults and the humiliation to which we were subjected by the young Magistrate.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL  
OF POLICE, L. P.,  
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,  
The 14th June 1902.

H. B. ST. LEGER,  
Asst. to the Insp.-General of Police, L. P.